GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3140
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
EXPLOITATION OF WORKERS IN UNORGANISED SECTOR
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that employees in unorganised sector are being exploited for working on daily wages for years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have fixed any limit for regularisation of service entailing benefit of time scale and other benefits for unskilled and semi-skilled workers;

(c) if so, the mechanism made available to ensure its compliance; and

(d) the number of complaints pending disposal in this regard and the action taken to dispose them of expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (d) : The Government have enacted a number of Laws to safeguard the interests of the workers including those in the unorganised sector. Some of these legislations are: Payment of Wages Act, 1936; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Workmen`s Compensation Act, 1923 and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961. However, there is no unified Act to regulate the service conditions of the workers in the unorganised sectors. The Second National Commission on Labour, under its terms of reference is expected to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector. The cases of violation of the existing Acts with respect to unorganised workers, whenever received by the Government, is dealt as per the provisions of the relevant Act. The regularization of services of unskilled or semi-skilled workers in the Central Govt. offices and Central PSUs is governed by the orders issued from time to time by the Deptt. of Personnel and Training and Model Standing orders issued by the Ministry of Labour respectively. The question of regularization of services of such workers in the State Govt., State Govt. undertakings and private sector undertakings is decided by the respective state governments and information on complaints pending disposal in this regard, is not maintained centrally.